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CZECH COMMUNIST PARTY TO CONDUCT  
MEMBERSHIP CHECKUP BEFORE ISSUING NEW CARDS

According to the decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia of 26 June 1950, all party cards are to expire on 31 December 1950. There will be a checkup of all party members and candidates before the new party cards are issued. Only those members and candidates who have been judged politically reliable will receive new party cards.

This new checkup is another of the tasks assigned to the party at the Ninth Party Congress. Each member of the party must prove that he understands the historic significance of the party's tasks and that he can overcome obstacles and win over non-Communists in the fulfillment of these tasks. He will then be judged on how well he has fulfilled these tasks.

Therefore, the main criterion of the checkup will be the extent to which each member and candidate has accomplished his party tasks since the last checkup in 1948. He will also be judged by the degree to which he has demonstrated his relationship to the party in his daily work.

The best way for members and candidates to demonstrate their devotion to the party is by alert and devoted work. For this reason, the checkup will be connected with a declaration of new socialist pledges in all fields of socialist endeavor. Everywhere, in factories, schools, institutions, and offices, socialist pledges will constitute an essential part of the checkup.

This checkup will be much more strict and thorough than the one in 1948. The party has still greater and more responsible tasks confronting it for the future, and therefore it has the right to make greater demands of its members.

During the last checkup, from 1 October 1948 to 31 January 1949, a total of 2,418,199 party members were processed. Of this number, 76,638 were disqualified, 30,495 were expelled, and 522,683 were demoted to party candidates. This checkup was of great benefit to the party.

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The checkup had some shortcomings, however. Often, too much kindness was shown toward people who were undeserving. Many were transferred to the rank of candidate when they should have been expelled. The pasts of many members were also not examined very carefully, since obviously it is impossible for those who betrayed the people during the Nazi occupation to have an honest attitude toward them now.

Even now there are party members who are concerned only with their own profit, who abuse their position, and who suppress criticism, thereby harming the party. There are still party organizations in which the village rich are influential.

The last party checkup was designed to acquaint the party with all members, and particularly to check on the great number who entered the party just before or after February 1948.

In this new checkup each member or candidate will be placed in one of five groups: positively screened, demoted to candidate level, period of candidacy prolonged subject to further checkup, crossed off membership lists, and expelled from the party. These groups are determined as follows:

1. Positively screened will include all those who in their daily work have established their relationship to the party and have contributed to socialist endeavor. This group will also include those people who have faults but who honestly desire to reform and fulfill their duties toward the party. Candidates whose period of candidacy has expired and who have been positively screened will get the new party cards.
2. Demotion to candidate level will mean that those members of the party who lack political awareness and have not fulfilled their duties to the party will still have a chance to overcome these shortcomings during their period of candidacy.
3. The period of candidacy may be prolonged for those candidates whose political awareness is still not at the desired level for party membership. This delay will be used for the party to observe the candidates' work.
4. Those members and candidates who, despite their good intentions, cannot understand and carry out party policy, will not receive new cards. They will not be expelled from the party because most of them have a positive attitude toward the republic and fulfill all their duties as citizens. They will be urged to enter some nonparty organizations in which they can work constructively.
5. Those members and candidates who do not have an honest attitude toward the party will be expelled because they constitute a dissident element within the party.

The checkup will be carried out in each member's own cadre organization from 1 September to 15 December 1950. The kraj and okres organizations will make all preparations so that the screening can be carried out properly. The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the party will issue detailed instructions concerning the checkup.

The committee of the cadre organizations will be responsible for the checkup, but the results will be decided by a meeting of members. Each member will be checked only once, by his own cadre organization. In addition, the work of members of okres and kraj committees will be judged separately before the beginning of the checkup.

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The checkup will be organized in the cells so that it may be conducted properly, because it is in cells that the members and candidates know each other best. In this way, each can judge most effectively the performance of other members and evaluate their work for the party. The cell evaluation will be made in the presence of a member of the cadre organization committee. The findings of the evaluation will be sent to the cadre organization committee to provide a basis for the checkup.

At the checkup the cadre organization will be assisted by okres committee instructors. In cases where the instructor does not agree with the results of the checkup, he will ask the okres committee for a final decision. These instructors have great responsibilities, and therefore the okres committees must see that they are reliable comrades.

The okres committees are to supervise the checkup continuously to make sure that it progresses satisfactorily in all organizations. The okres committees are to set up auxiliary commissions which will each assist from three to five organizations and watch the progress of the checkup.

The checkup must be well enough organized to be finished by 15 December. New party cards will be issued beginning 1 January 1951. -- Executive Board of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

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